

**REMARKS**

Applicant notes that this Amendment is being filed within two months (November 18, 2006 being a Saturday) of the date of the final Office Action (September 18, 2006).

With this Amendment, Applicant adds new claims 10 and 11. Therefore, claims 1 and 3-11 are all the claims currently pending in this Application.

**Claim Rejections**

Claims 1, 3, and 5-9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1039a) as allegedly unpatentable over Arquilevich (U.S. Publication No. 2002-0060709) in view of Endo (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0085057). Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 1039a) as allegedly unpatentable over Arquilevich in view of Yuji (JP 05-330088).

Applicants submit that the cited references fail to teach or suggest “determining a position deviation caused by a tilt of the recording head,” and “correcting the position deviation caused by a tilt of a recording head,” as recited in claim 1. (See also, claim 8: “a correcting unit for previously shifting and correcting a recording position of an ink dot to be recorded on said material for each of said plurality of nozzles based on an amount of position deviation caused by a tilt of a recording head in a sub-scanning direction” and claim 9: “A computer program for correcting position deviation caused by a tilt of a recording head of an ink dot ejected and recorded from a plurality of nozzles in a sub-scanning direction”).

Although a plurality of nozzles are expected to eject ink dots at the substantially same position in the sub-scanning direction, due to a tilt of a recording head, the nozzles eject ink dots at different positions in the sub-scanning direction. The present invention provides the solution to

detect position deviation caused by a tilt of the recording head and to correct the recording position. In particular, the present invention allows position deviation to be detected precisely by ejecting ink from two nozzle arrays post distanced from each other.

On the contrary, Arquilevich merely discloses a general method for correcting a recording position, but does not teach or suggest any technique for detecting and correcting the recording position caused by the tilt of a recording head. Endo discloses a technique for detecting inoperative nozzles and for compensating for the inoperative nozzles. However, Endo also fails to teach or suggest a technique for detecting and correcting the recording position deviation caused by the tilt of a recording head. Likewise, Yuji fails to remedy these deficiencies.

Applicant therefore submits that claims 1, 8, and 9 are patentable over the cited combinations of references and that claims 3-7, 10 and 11 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependence on claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of the claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

#### **New Claims**

With this Amendment, Applicant adds new claims 10 and 11 in order more fully to cover various aspects of Applicants' invention as disclosed in the specification.

#### **Conclusion**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
U.S. Application No. 10/796,167

Q79698

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: November 20, 2006